

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING TASK FORCE**

Wednesday, October 27, 2004 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W135 House Building

**Members Present:**

Senator Carlene M. Walker  
Rep. Rebecca D. Lockhart  
Sen. Karen Hale  
Sen. Sheldon L. Killpack  
Rep. J. Stuart Adams  
Rep. Brad Dee  
Rep. John Dougall  
Rep. Neil A. Hansen  
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson  
Rep. Todd E. Kiser

**Members Absent:**

Sen. David L. Gladwell  
Sen. Paula Julander  
Sen. John L. Valentine  
Rep. Craig W. Butters

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Shannon C. Halverson, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Joy L. Miller, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present and a copy of related materials can be found at [www.leg.utah.gov](http://www.leg.utah.gov) or by contacting the task force secretary, Joy Miller, at 538-1032. A recording of the meeting may also be available from the task force secretary.

**1. Task Force Business**

Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Killpack moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2004 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hendrickson was absent for the vote.

**2. Joint Transportation Funding Recommendations – Wasatch Front Regional Council, Mountainland Association of Governments, Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, Utah League of Cities and Towns**

Mr. Tom Hardy and Mr. Lincoln Shurtz, Utah League of Cities and Towns, outlined some of their recommendations for the Task Force. Mr. Shurtz indicated that the 75/25 split of any revenue increase into the transportation fund is a priority. He stressed the need for maintaining the 1/16 of a cent sales tax to transportation projects for B and C roads. Sales tax headroom is the most important priority and should be maintained as a general revenue source and not be earmarked for a specific project.

Mayor Tom Dolan, Sandy City, distributed “Resolution of the Mountainland Association of Governments and the Wasatch Front Regional Council.” Attachment B of the resolution contains four options for highway and transit funding. He discussed Option 2, which has been selected as the preferred option. He asked that the Legislature continue to examine the state’s budget to determine if there are revenues that can be directed toward the transportation budget.

Mayor Fritz Boyer, Springville City, commented that there has been tremendous improvement in cooperation between agencies and all others concerned with transportation.

Mr. Robin Riggs, Vice President and General Counsel, Salt Lake Chamber, distributed a written copy of his comments. He requested that in addition to developing a transportation policy, the Legislature also consider (1) providing more spending discipline, (2) adopting a more scientific approach to prioritizing

specific projects, (3) adopting a funding plan that includes both capital projects and ongoing maintenance, and (4) making local government entities more accountable for their local decisions.

Mr. Rich Thorn, Associated General Contractors, stressed the importance of agencies continuing to work together to address the transportation problems. He said that it is important to educate the public in understanding the importance of long-range planning.

Mr. David Creer, Utah Trucking Association, stated approximately 70 percent of all freight is moved by truck. He pointed out that there are 29 million vehicle miles traveled in the state, of which trucks are a very small percentage. If the cost of moving freight is increased, it will cost everyone more money. He said that transit is vitally important and incentives should be developed to use transit in order to free lanes to move freight.

### **3. Potential Transportation Planning, Funding, Administrative Legislation (draft legislation)**

Sen. Howard Stephenson distributed "A Land Value Tax for Utah's Transportation Needs." Under the proposal, a separate tax levy would be imposed on all land in the state. The tax would be imposed on the value of the land, not the improvements. The land value tax system would operate parallel to Utah's current property tax system. No changes would be made to the current system and taxing entities would still rely on current property tax revenue sources.

Mr. Ron Bushman, Logan and Cache Valley Transit District, stated they also have significant transportation issues. If a local option tax is adopted, he asked that it be implemented in all areas of the state.

Mr. Christensen distributed draft resolution, "Resolution Encouraging Managed Lanes Study." The proposed resolution urges the Utah Department of Transportation and other policy making bodies to study and use the concept of managed lanes on transportation systems throughout the state.

**MOTION:** Rep. Dee moved to adopt proposed resolution "Resolution Encouraging Managed Lanes Study." The motion passed unanimously.

The following items were handed out but not discussed:

Map of Greater Wasatch Front Region Transportation Plans  
Map of Roadways with Significant Congestion  
Wasatch Front Regional Council Communique  
Moving Forward, Mountainland Association of Governments  
2004 Agenda Index, October 19, 2004  
Notice and agenda for November 4, 2004 meeting  
Notice and agenda for November 5, 2004 meeting

### **4. Other Items / Adjourn**

Minutes of the Transportation Planning Task Force  
October 27, 2004  
Page 3

The Task Force will meet again on November 4 and 5 at 9:00 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Hendrickson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Walker adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.